

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02
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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIRORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN PRIOROITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1264

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS MATTERS

REF: (A) STATE 050666 (DTG 080116Z MAR 77), (B)
USNATO 468 (DTG 271725Z JAN 77, NOTAL)

1. WE UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT WASHINGTON'S DESIRE TO
HAVE THOROUGH CONSULTATIONS WITH MAJOR ALLIES ON CW
POLICY ALTERNATIVES NOW UNDER REVIEW. BUT WE THINK
IT IMPORTANT THAT THE CONSULATIVE PROCESS ON CW BE
CARRIED FORWARD IN A WAY THAT WILL ENSURE THAT (A) US
POLICIES ARE UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED BY ALL THE ALLIES;
(B) ALL ARE GIVEN SOME SENSE OF PARTICIPATION
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF US POLICIES; AND (C)
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ALLIED SOLIDARITY IS NOT UNDERMINED BY A FEELING ON
THE PART OF SMALLER ALLIES THAT THEY ARE BEING LEFT OUT
OF CONSULTATIONS.

2. TO APPRECIATE THE ALLIANCE DIMENSION OF OUR CW POSTURE,
ONE HAS ONLY TO RECALL THAT THE 1976 MILITARY COMMITTEE
REPORT ON CHEMICAL WARFARE, AND SUBSEQUENT PERMREPS
DISCUSSIONS AND DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE WORK ON DEFENSIVE
MEASSURES, WAS SPARKED BY A BELGIAN PROPOSAL FOR STUDY
OF THIS ISSUE FOLLOWING SIMULATED CW USE BY THE WP AGAINST

DENMARK IN WINTEX 75. WHILE THERE MAY BE SOME AMBIVALENCE ON THE PART OF SMALLER ALLIES REGARDING THEIR "NEED TO KNOW" ABOUT CW STOCKPILES AND POSSIBLE CW RETALIATION, IN LIGHT OF DOMESTIC SENSITIVITIES, THEY WOULD REACT SHARPLY TO INDICATIONS THAT THEY ARE BEING EXCLUDED FROM CONSULTATIONS ON THE RANGE OF ISSUES LISTED IN PARA 3 REFTEL-- PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF RECENT DISCUSSION OF CW AT NATO (REF B). WE THUS SEE MERIT IN BRINGING OTHER ALLIES INTO THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS AS EARLY AS PRACTICABLE, EVEN IF OUR INITIAL PRESENTATION ON US POLICY REVIEW IS VERY GENERAL IN NATURE.

3. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT:

A. EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO ASSURE THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE FACT OF CONSULTATIONS ON CW IN LONDON, BONN, AND PARIS, AND WITH THE JAPANESE.

B. AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER WASHINGTON HAS EVALUATED THE VIEWS OF MAJOR ALLIES, A US OFFICIAL COME TO NATO TO BRIEF PERMREPS IN GENERAL TERMS ON APPROPRIATE POINTS IN PARA 3 REFTEL. WITHOUT GOING INTO SENSITIVE AREAS THAT MIGHT BE COVERED BILATERALLY, PARTICULARLY WITH THE FRG, A US BRIEFING AT NATO WOULD GIVE THE OTHER ALLIES A SENSE OF PARTICIPATION AT AN EARLY STAGE IN US POLICY DEVELOPMENT, AND REDUCE THE RISK THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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SMALLER ALLIES MAY CHARGE THEY HAVE BEEN LEFT OUT.

C. ALTERNATIVELY, WE CIRCULATE A PAPER TO THE SYG AND PERMREPS IN LATE MARCH OR EARLY APRIL COVERING IN GENERAL TERMS APPROPRIATE POINTS IN PARA 3 REFTEL, WITH AN ASSURANCE THAT THE US LOOKS FORWARD TO CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ALLIES ON CW ISSUES AT THE APRIL 21-22 NATO DISARMAMENT EXPERTS MEETING.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE.STRAUSZ-HUPE

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